(c) The Andhra Pradesh Secretariat Disaster Management Systems (APSDMS) is participating in the TOPS programme. The data from the ground stations such as automated rain gauges, weather stations and the gauges set up under the World Bank aided project is being utilized to monitor severe weather events affecting the State of Andhra Pradesh. The project is currently being carried out in a research mode. Once made operational, the TOPS can help in effective disaster management in the State for managing drought, cyclone etc.

(d) and (e) AP Remote Sensing Application Centre has not approached National Remote Sensing Agency for any assistance in this regard.

Assistance for Space Technology

4707. SHRI KESHUBHAI S. PATEL:
SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat at any time requested for Central support from Human Resource Development in the applications of Space Technology; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) As part of National Natural Resources Management System (NNRMS) under the aegis of the Planning Commission for which the Department of Space, Government of India is the nodal agency, close coordinated activities pertaining to space technology applications are taken up jointly with the Bhaskaracharya Institute of Space Applications and Geo-informatics (BISAG), Government of Gujarat, Gandhinagar. Further, the officials from the Gujarat Government periodically make use of the training and education facilities available at Space Application Centre, Ahmedabad; National Remote Sensing Agency, Hyderabad; and Indian Institute of Remote Sensing (IIRS), Dehradun towards acquiring proficiency in the field of remote sensing, geo-informatics and GPS Technology for natural resources and disaster management.